

Sires	Terry	Wasserman
Skelton	Thompson (CA)	Schultz
Smith (NE)	Thompson (MS)	Waters
Smith (NJ)	Thompson (PA)	Watson
Smith (TX)	Thornberry	Watt
Smith (WA)	Tiberi	Waxman
Snyder	Tierney	Weiner
Souder	Titus	Welch
Space	Tonko	Westmoreland
Speier	Towns	Whitfield
Spratt	Tsongas	Wilson (OH)
Stark	Turner	Wilson (SC)
Stearns	Upton	Wittman
Stupak	Van Hollen	Wolf
Sullivan	Velázquez	Woolsey
Sutton	Visclosky	Wu
Tanner	Walden	Yarmuth
Taylor	Walz	Young (AK)
Teague		Young (FL)

## NOT VOTING—13

Davis (AL)	Frank (MA)	Slaughter
Davis (TN)	Hoekstra	Tiahrt
Ellison	Kennedy	Wamp
Fattah	Kilpatrick (MI)	
Fortenberry	Miller (FL)	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remaining in the vote.

□ 1450

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

## NATIONAL DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1186) expressing support for designation of April as National Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

## H. RES. 1186

Whereas 9-year-old Erica Forney of Fort Collins, Colorado, was struck and killed by a distracted driver in 2008;

Whereas there were more than 276,000,000 wireless cell phone subscribers in the United States as of June 2009, an increase of 42 percent from 194,000,000 in June 2005, and nearly 3 times more than the 97,000,000 wireless subscribers in June 2000;

Whereas over 600,000,000,000 text messages were sent in 2008, nearly 4 times the number sent in 2006;

Whereas according to the recent National Motor Vehicle Crash Causation Survey, 80 percent of all traffic incidents and 65 percent of all near-crashes involve some type of distraction;

Whereas according to data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), driver distraction was reported to have been involved in 16 percent of all fatal crashes in 2008, which is an increase from 12 percent in 2004;

Whereas the Secretary of Transportation held a Distracted Driving Summit in September 2009; and

Whereas April would be an appropriate month to designate as National Distracted Driving Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of Distracted Driving Awareness Month;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to consider the lives of others on the road and avoid distracted driving; and

(3) respectfully requests the Clerk of the House to transmit a copy of this resolution to FocusDriven, an advocacy group for victims of motor vehicle crashes involving drivers using cell phones.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. MARKEY) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on House Resolution 1186.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness about a deadly trend in our Nation, distracted driving. Eighty percent of all crashes involve some sort of distraction, and in 2008, nearly 6,000 people lost their lives in accidents involving a distracted behavior.

One of those 6,000 was Erica Forney of Fort Collins, Colorado. Nine-year-old Erica was riding her bike home from school when she was struck and killed by a large SUV whose driver was on a cell phone. The driver said she never even saw Erica who was a mere 15 pedals away from her home.

The tragic story of Erica's death is all too common, and worse, her story was preventable.

I introduce House Resolution 1186 to raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving. This resolution will designate April as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Studies have shown that distracted driving is just as dangerous as driving drunk, and while everyone knows driving drunk is dangerous, far fewer people are aware of the risks of distracted driving. A driver increases the risk of a crash by 2,300 percent if he or she is texting while driving.

Currently, 20 States have enacted texting while driving bans, and I'm proud to say Colorado is one of them.

The Federal Government has also taken a stand against distracted driving. The Department of Transportation introduced federal guidance to prohibit texting by drivers of commercial vehicles. President Obama issued an Executive Order banning texting while driving on official business for federal employees. Last September, Secretary LaHood held a distracted driving summit and celebrated the establishment of Focus Driven, a national nonprofit dedicated to ending this epidemic and for providing support for families who have lost loved ones. After hearing stories of those involved with Focus Driven, even Oprah has urged the public to make their cars a "no phone zone."

I urge all of my colleagues to take the "no phone zone" pledge. The risk that you present to yourself and to others by driving distractedly are not worth it. Please pull over and take a call or send a text message.

I urge a "yes" vote on House Resolution 1186 and ask for the help of my colleagues in ending this epidemic of distracted driving.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 1186, a resolution expressing support for designating April as National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and I would like to commend the gentlewoman from Colorado for introducing this resolution.

This is a growing problem, as she has pointed out. The Transportation Committee held a hearing on distracted driving in October, and the testimony at the hearing proved that there are no shortage of ways a driver can be distracted. And I would like to commend Transportation Secretary LaHood, who has started a nationwide campaign against distracted driving and has made this one of the top priorities of his Department.

During the hearing we held, testimony was presented showing a three-fold, or tripling, of the instance of accidents if the driver is holding a handheld cell phone, and a 23-fold increase in the odds of getting in an accident if a driver is texting. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, as the gentlewoman from Colorado mentioned, 6,000 people die each year in crashes involving a distracted or inattentive driver.

I had a personal experience a few months ago of this. I changed several stations on an XM radio as I was driving on an interstate connector in Knoxville, and when I looked up, the truck in front of me had come almost to a stop. I had to slam on my brakes. I slid across three lanes of traffic, spun around back across the three lanes, slammed into the median, and then back again going in a 360-degree circle. Fortunately, with traffic whizzing by me all the time, I didn't hit another vehicle and no one was injured. But it sure caught my attention and gave me a new awareness of the danger of distracted driving.